

Kentucky High School

SPEECH

LEAGUE 

25 March 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

LOUISVILLE: The Kentucky High School Speech League (KHSSL) held its 100th State Debate contest on the campus of the University of Louisville March 11 and 12. Students from Bowling Green to Bryan Station, from Henry Clay to Hindman competed in six debate categories for State honors in a contest that dates back to the University of Kentucky Extension Service's first statewide debate contest in 1921.

Lexington's Henry Clay High School took top honors at the state meet for the sixth straight year. Clay's head coach, Ryan Ray, was voted Coach of the Year by his peers. Lexington Dunbar, coached by the sister act of Neomia Hagans Flores and Connie Hagans, took second, followed by Louisville Trinity, Larry A. Ryle (Boone County), Bowling Green, and Louisville's duPont Manual in the top team honors. Henry Clay High was also the recipient of a new award for Sustained Excellence over time, a traveling trophy it will possess for a year before starting its points accumulation over next year and passing the award on to the then-highest team.

One of two Blyton Scholarships awarded annually by the Kentucky High School Speech League was presented to Bowling Green's Christian Butterfield. The other will be presented as part of a virtual awards ceremony concluding the first-ever Virtual State Senior High School Speech Tournament, a necessary answer to recent event closings due to COVID-19.

Students in the State Debate tournament competed in five preliminary rounds (or three preliminary legislative sessions) with the top scorers in each event's preliminary rounds advancing to the State Awards Rounds. Debaters then moved through an elimination bracket based on seeding from the preliminary rounds, and Congressional Debaters tackled new legislation in a consolidated chamber of the top twenty-three performers. Contests ensued until a final round was reached; if debaters from the same school were to face each other in the final, they chose to call it a draw, not debate, and reign as Co-Champions. Speaker awards were also given in the adversarial debate events to recognize clear communication skills in preliminary rounds.

The State Debate Award winners are listed on the next pages. For further information, please contact Executive Director Steve Meadows (contact information below) and browse to our website.

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TEAM RESULTS:

1st Henry Clay HS (113 pts.)
2nd Dunbar HS (80 pts.)
3rd Trinity HS (24 pts.)
4th Ryle HS (21 pts. -- tiebreaker winner)
5th Bowling Green HS (21 pts.)
6th duPont Manual HS (19 pts.)

SUSTAINED EXCELLENCE TROPHY:

Henry Clay HS

COACH OF THE YEAR:

Ryan Ray, Henry Clay HS

BLYTON SCHOLARSHIP:

Christian Butterfield, Bowling Green HS

CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE:

1st -- Christian Butterfield, Bowling Green HS
2nd -- Johnathan Hurley, Lafayette HS
3rd -- Walker Evans, Trinity HS
4th -- William Byerman, Henry Clay HS
5th -- Kole Ingram, Knott County Central HS
6th -- Riley Hamm, Beechwood HS

Supersession Participants:

Ashley Su / Dunbar HS
Sebastian Enz / Henry Clay HS
Becca Grunkemeyer / Beechwood HS
Liam Demann / Dunbar HS
Alex Minter / Bowling Green HS
Riya Guha / Dunbar HS
Alex Hudepohl / Beechwood HS
Alex Reynolds / Ryle HS
Julianne Sharpe / Lafayette HS
Matthew Chou / Trinity HS

Madison Baker / Knott County Central HS
Sahil Chhabra / Bowling Green HS
Nathan Zhu / Dunbar HS
Michael Chou / Trinity HS
Hope Jordan / Henry Clay HS
Celia Dawahare / Henry Clay HS
Claire Qian / Lafayette HS

Varsity Public Forum Debate:

1st -- August Colby & Santiago O'Neil, Henry Clay HS
2nd -- Parker Smith & Sydney Sun, Dunbar HS
Semis -- Sanaa Kahloon & Gabriella Staykova, Dunbar HS
Semis -- Tag Howard & Jasir Rahman, Henry Clay HS
Octos -- Megan Jacobs & Patricia Loka, Fairdale HS
Octos -- Ben Baloni & Gabriel Purtell, Covington Latin HS

Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Debate:

1st - Jack Lofwall, Henry Clay HS
2nd - David Vulakh, Dunbar HS
Semis -- Jacob Fox, Highlands Latin
Semis -- Sadie Bograd, Dunbar HS
Octos -- Lynn Ye, Dunbar HS
Octos -- Kelly Helton, Ryle HS
Octos -- Pranav Kanmadikar, duPont Manual
Octos -- Will Baumann, Henry Clay HS

Novice Public Forum Debate:

Co-Champions: Emily Hu and Daksha Pillai + Zoe Jenkins and Nyasha Musoni, Dunbar HS
Semis -- Karson Whiltey & Justine Lofwall, Henry Clay HS
Semis -- Neel Patel & Mason Thompson, LaRue Co. HS
Octos -- Jack Geruc & Jack Liles, Ryle HS
Octos -- Ananya Bhalla & Katie Yang, Dunbar HS
Octos -- Mroogank Diallo & Dhiraj Kanneganti, duPont Manual HS
Octos -- Maeve Whitlock & Jilian Zhu, Henry Clay HS

Novice Lincoln-Douglas Debate:

Co-Champions: Chose Sachs and Matthew Kotter, Henry Clay HS
Semis: Wendy Wei, Dunbar HS
Semis: Cayla Barreiro, Henry Clay HS
Octos: Makennah Bachman, Ryle HS

Policy Debate:

1st Abby Gottesman & Sam Merritt, Henry Clay HS
2nd Sneha Amrit & Emmy Sippy, Henry Clay HS

SPEAKER AWARDS -- VARSITY PF

1st Megan Jacobs, Fairdale HS
2nd August Colby, Henry Clay HS
3rd Tag Howard, Henry Clay HS
4th Santiago O'Neil, Henry Clay HS
5th Jasir Rahman, Henry Clay HS
6th Gabriella Staykova, Dunbar HS
7th Brian Yorke, Ryle HS
8th Dylan Campbell, Bryan Station HS
9th Sanaa Kahloon, Dunbar HS
10th Parker Smith, Dunbar HS

SPEAKER AWARDS -- VARSITY LD

1st Jack Lofwall, Henry Clay HS
2nd Jacob Fox, Highlands Latin
3rd Sadie Bograd, Dunbar HS
4th Porter Hunt, Trinity HS
5th Cole Knight, Henry Clay HS
6th Kelly Helton, Ryle HS
7th Will Baumann, Henry Clay HS
8th Pranav Kanmadikar, duPont Manual HS
9th David Vulakh, Dunbar HS
10th Lynn Ye, Dunbar HS

TOP SPEAKERS -- POLICY

Emmy Sippy and Sneha Amrit, Henry Clay HS

SPEAKER AWARDS -- NOVICE PF

1st Daksha Pillai, Dunbar HS
2nd Emily Hu, Dunbar HS
3rd Karson Whitley, Henry Clay HS
4th Justine Lofwall, Henry Clay HS
5th Zoe Jenkins, Dunbar HS
6th Kyndall Diallo, duPont Manual HS
7th Mason Thompson, LaRue Co. HS
8th Dhiraj kanneganti, duPont Manual HS
9th Ghazzal Hammad, Henry Clay HS
10th Neel Pael, LaRue Co. HS

SPEAKER AWARDS -- NOVICE LD

1st Wendy Wei, Dunbar HS
2nd Chloe Sachs, Henry Clay HS
3rd Matthew Kotter, Henry Clay HS
4th Makennah Bachman, Ryle HS
5th Maia Cook, South Oldham HS
6th Levin David, duPont Manual HS
7th Saurav Poudyel, duPont Manual HS
8th Cayla Barreiro, Henry Clay HS
9th Daniel Melnikov, South Oldham HS
10th Alex Englund, duPont Manual HS